

Alan Coles
5637 Keynote St.
Long Beach, CA 90808

Erik Van Walden, District Ranger
Mount Pinos Ranger District
34580 Lockwood Valley Road
Frazier Park, CA 93225

March 10, 2010

Dear Mr. Van Walden,

I would like to submit comments on behalf of the Los Padres Chapter of the Sierra Club regarding the OHV "green sticker" grants that the forest has submitted.

As I have previously discussed, the problems with off-road vehicles has escalated in the past few years resulting in numerous excursions into inventoried roadless areas (IRA's) and designated wilderness areas. The Mount Pinos Ranger District especially has seen a dramatic rise in lawless behavior. This situation has been exasperated by the lack of enforcement and restoration.

It is our desire that a significant portion of the OHV "green sticker" funds be used for enforcement and restoration, as much as can be allowed. Priority should be given to areas where the greatest damage is occurring such as the western portion of the Chumash Wilderness and the adjacent IRA's listed under "Sawmill Badlands" in RARE II. Other areas in need of these funds are the Alamo Mountain, Mutau Creek, Little Mutau Creek and the canyons north of Mil Potrero Road down to the Wind Wolves Preserve. New barriers and signs are badly needed.

The District also needs to complete the inventory of all illegal roads and OHV trails if it has not already done so. This inventory should be used to help prioritize restoration plans.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Alan Coles, Forest Representative
Los Padres Chapter, Sierra Club